

THE DAILY JOURNAL
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1902Telephone Calls (Old and New).
Business Office...238 | Editorial Rooms...86**TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.**
BY CARRIER—INDIANAPOLIS AND SUBURBS.
Daily, Sunday included, 10 cents per month.
Daily, without Sunday, 8 cents per month.
Sundays, without daily, 2 cents per week.
Single copies: Daily, 2 cents; Sunday, 5 cents.
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All communications intended for publication in this paper must be sent to the editorial office, be accompanied by the name and address of the contributor.
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Send all second-class matter at Indianapolis, Ind., postpaid.

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Can be found at the following places:

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The British government seems to think that suggestions for peace negotiations should come from the Boers in South Africa rather than from the Dutch in Holland. It is not an unreasonable view.

If Cuba should ask for annexation the chances are that a considerable opposition could be raised against it by the best sugar lobby. Its hostility to concessions to Cuba is likely to hasten annexation.

Hereafter, if school funds are to be loaned by counties, the rate of interest must be lower than 6 per cent. Because the school funds could not be loaned at that figure last year Marion county had to pay \$5,000.

Senator Dubois, of Idaho, who have remained unknown to a large majority of the American people had not applied the insulting phrase "charity boys" to officers of the regular army who are graduated from West Point.

Several successive legislatures in Colorado of the calamity brand have put that State in so helpless a condition financially that the Governor is compelled either to call an extra session or close up all of the State's charitable and correctional institutions.

It seems to those who are not financiers that the abundance of money the past year shows that the need for a flexible currency is not so great as many seem to believe. Business has been active the past year to a degree, yet there has been no lack of funds for legitimate business.

President James J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, says the railroads should be severely punished for secretly cutting rates. As the country holds the same views, it remains with Congress whether or not those corporations shall be made to give the same rates to all shippers.

When Senator Hale, of Maine, asked Senator Money, of Mississippi, what he would do with the Philippines, he answered: "Let them go to the devil and take care of themselves as far as the American people are concerned." This indicates the senator's idea of the Filipino's capacity for self-government.

The attempted consolidation of bituminous coal-mining properties in Indiana and Illinois has failed through inability to fix the valuation of the properties within the period of the options, which expire to-day after one extension already made. As the movement is in line with the general tendency towards consolidation it will probably be renewed.

The New York Sun discusses the Democratic policy regarding the Philippines as formulated by Senator Money as a "Proposed transfer to the devil." When Senator Money was asked what he would do with the islands he replied: "Let them go to the devil and take care of themselves as far as the American people are concerned." That is the Democratic policy as now foreshadowed by the action of the party leaders, but there is reason to believe that thousands of patriotic Democrats will not approve it.

The report of the United States Steel Corporation shows that, after charging to operating expenses, month by month, all current renewals and ordinary repairs for maintenance of plant, the net earnings of the several companies for the nine months ending Dec. 31, 1901, amounted to \$34,770,238. No combination can expect to maintain for any great length of time the monopoly or control of a business yielding such profits as this. There will be plenty of capital to compete for a share, and, by the way, this is one of the natural safeguards against the domination of trusts.

The Associated Press did not send out any part of Professor Schurman's Boston speech, but the officers of the vicious anti-imperialistic organization culled a few sentences from it, says the Boston Journal, and telegraphed them to Manila to cheer up the drooping spirits of the insurgents. What was sent to Manila has not appeared here, but the men whom General Lawton made responsible for his life are still engaged in the vocation of encouraging resistance to the authorities of the United States who are giving the people of the islands the first decent government they ever experienced.

The Washington correspondent of the Boston Journal says the majority in the House would vote any concession to Cuba which the ways and means committee was

report, but that the ways and means committee will not report such a measure until the speaker is in favor of it. It is to be hoped that this statement of the correspondent of a most reliable Republican paper is not an accurate one. Evidently, the bill to reduce the revenues was hastened to prevent favorable action upon the Cuban proposition. If that bill should be passed, it might be impossible to reduce the duty on Cuban raw sugars. When it comes between an act of justice to Cuba and a policy which will give this country an additional trade of \$25,000,000 a year and the cutting of the beer tax 50 cents a barrel, the country is for Cuba, justice and business.

THE CRUMPACKER CAUCUS.

No argument based upon mere expediency should prevent the consideration of Representative Crumpacker's bill which provides for an apportionment of representatives in Congress and election for President upon the basis of the Constitution. Constitutional representation in the House is, when rightly considered, the most important subject to which the attention of Congress can be devoted. Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina have already so changed their constitutions that the colored man can no longer vote, and Virginia will do so before its constitutional convention shall adjourn. These changes are made in the State Constitutions for the express purpose of disfranchising the colored vote. No one in the South attempts to put any other construction upon these constitutions. The whites in the South believe that good government is in peril in the Southern States so long as the black man can vote, and they have proceeded to remove the peril, as is their right, with the full knowledge that if the Constitution of the United States shall be enforced by Congress they must lose the representation of the disfranchised race in Congress. By such disfranchisement Alabama should lose 3, Louisiana 2, Mississippi 2, North Carolina 2, South Carolina 3, and Virginia 3 representatives in Congress. Very often a change in fifteen congressional districts would change the political complexion of the House, and once, at least, the choice of President of the United States.

Mr. Crumpacker asks his Republican associates in the House to legislate to prevent a violation of the amendments of the Federal Constitution which embraced the more potential results of the war which preserved the Union. Really, no Republican should hesitate to support a measure designed to prevent a violation of the Constitution and insure to the States equal representation upon the voting population. Nor should any man who sees the injustice of unequal representation fear lest the leaders in the States which have disfranchised the colored voter shall become violent and denounce the Crumpacker bill as a Northern firebrand designed to arouse and keep alive the animosities of the civil war. It may be that Republican toleration has gone a little too far if the party shall refuse to enforce the plain provision of the Constitution lest it displease men in the Southern States which have disfranchised the black man. Doubtless a fear of destroying the existing good will between North and South explains Republican apathy on this subject, but those who may denounce the supporters of the Crumpacker bill as sentimentalists will do so because they have no arguments with which to refute the proposition to give impartial representation. The Southern leaders say: "We have disfranchised the colored man because he is a menace to good government." To this reasoning those who support Mr. Crumpacker's bill should reply: "We accept your judgment as to the fitness of the colored man to vote, and, accepting it, we proceed a step further to add that the race that is such a menace to good government that its males are disfranchised should not be counted for representation in Congress."

There is no answer to such an argument, for it cannot be said that the whites who live in the States which have disfranchised the colored men are so much better American citizens than they should have twice as much representation in Congress and in the congressional elections as the residents of Indiana and other Northern States. Those who oppose Mr. Crumpacker plead expediency; they may constitute a majority of the Republican members of the House, but that expediency which silently indorses injustice should not be the plea of Republicans, and it should not control the House caucus next Monday.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY'S APPEAL.

In view of Judge Advocate Lemly's comments on Admiral Schley's appeal from the finding of the court of inquiry many persons will conclude that the admiral was badly advised in making the appeal. By impugning the finding of the court he invited a review of the evidence and the record, and the manner in which this is done can hardly fail to impress the public with the practical unanimity of the court on all the main points of its finding, all of which were unfavorable to the contention of his counsel. It must be remembered that the question of Admiral Schley's personal bravery, loyalty or conduct in battle was not before the court at all, and there was nothing in its finding to show that he did not do his whole duty in the battle that resulted in the destruction of Cervera's squadron. Neither was the question before the court as to who was in chief command in that engagement, and the court made no finding on that point. Admiral Dewey, in his dissenting or personal opinion, stated that Schley "was the senior officer of our squadron off Santiago when on the morning of July 3, 1898, that he was in absolute command and entitled to the credit due such commanding officer." Strictly speaking, this was outside of the record, as it was not included in any specification of the precept convening the court. The points really before the court, and to which testimony was mainly directed, were: Admiral Schley's conduct off Cienfuegos, the slow progress made in his voyage to Santiago, the retrograde movement toward Key West, the bombardment of the Cristobal Colon, the blockade of Santiago, and the Brooklyn's loop. The court found against him on all of these points, Admiral Dewey dissenting as to some, but joining in the recommendation that no further proceedings be had in the premises. Admiral Schley's appeal has given the judge advocate general an opportunity to emphasize some points not touched upon in the finding of the court, and especially the fact that Admiral Schley did not do any act nor issue any order as commander-in-chief either before or during the battle, and that every vessel engaged acted under a plan

of campaign previously arranged and orders previously issued. "The plain truth of the matter," says the Navy Department through the judge advocate general, "is that so far as the Gloucester, the Iowa, the Indiana, the Texas and the Oregon are concerned, not the stroke of a propeller blade or the touch of a helm, nor the firing of a shot, was done under the direction or by the orders of Admiral Schley during the memorable battle." The emphasizing of these facts leaves Admiral Schley in rather a worse position than he was before the making of the appeal, which Admiral Dewey united with other members of the court in deprecating.

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"I certainly would—if I were you."

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